

In addition to his work as Police Chief, Mr. Chalk volunteers in a number of civic and philanthropic organizations, working to strengthen his community. He was actively involved with the Citizens to Restore Clearlake, which was formed to bring about substantial improvements to the environment in Clearlake.

Mr. Chalk has deep roots in Lake County. Mr. Chalk was born in Lakeport, California and has lived and worked in Lake County all his life. He and his wife Marsha are the proud parents of 3 children, Johnnie, Merissa and Ryan and 10 grandchildren.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate at this time that we thank Mr. Robert Chalk for his many years of service to Lake County and the City of Clearlake, and extend our best wishes to him in retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE ACT

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2007

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, one of the most fascinating and popular shows on television today, *In the Womb* on the National Geographic Channel, provides viewers with amazingly detailed footage of unborn children growing and interacting in utero. Watching these babies suck their thumbs, smile and cry has led many to question why a nation, that can spend millions of dollars searching for life on other planets, is not able to discern life in the beating heart of an unborn child. For many years now, I have introduced an important piece of legislation that fulfills what I believe to be one of our most important obligations as elected leaders of this great Nation; protecting our unborn children from harm. I am proud to once again be introducing the Right to Life Act and I am optimistic of its future.

Unfortunately, over 1.3 million abortions are performed in the United States each year and over 38 million have been performed since abortion was legalized in 1973. Mr. Speaker, this is a national tragedy. It is the duty of all Americans to protect our children—born and unborn. This bill, the Right to Life Act, would provide blanket protection to all unborn children from the moment of conception.

In 1973, the United States Supreme Court, in the landmark case of *Roe v. Wade*, refused to determine when human life begins and therefore found nothing to indicate that the unborn are persons protected by the Fourteenth Amendment. In the decision, however, the Court did concede that, "If the suggestion of personhood is established, the appellants' case, of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life would be guaranteed specifically by the Amendment." Considering Congress has the constitutional authority to uphold the Fourteenth Amendment, coupled by the fact that the Court admitted that if personhood were to be established, the unborn would be protected, it can be concluded that we have the authority to determine when life begins.

The Right to Life Act does what the Supreme Court refused to do in *Roe v. Wade* and recognizes the personhood of the unborn for the purpose of enforcing 4 important provisions in the Constitution: (1) Sec. 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment prohibiting States from

depriving any person of life; (2) Sec. 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment providing Congress the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provision of this amendment; (3) the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment, which concurrently prohibits the Federal Government from depriving any person of life; and (4) Article I, Section 8, giving Congress the power to make laws necessary and proper to enforce all powers in the Constitution.

This legislation will protect millions of future children by prohibiting any State or Federal law that denies the personhood of the unborn, thereby effectively overturning *Roe v. Wade*. I firmly believe that life begins at conception and that the preborn child deserves all the rights and protections afforded an American citizen. This measure will recognize the unborn child as a human being and protect the fetus from harm. The Right to Life Act will finally put our unborn children on the same legal footing as all other persons and I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this important effort.

HONORING BARRY BRICKEY 2006 TENNESSEE PUBLIC FIRE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2007

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Barry Brickey, a resident of the First Congressional District of Tennessee, who has received the 2006 Tennessee Public Fire Educator of the Year award.

Barry Brickey is a native of Kingsport, Tennessee. He graduated from Sullivan North High School and entered into the Tennessee Air National Guard where he served this great nation and was honorably discharged. He has been the voice of the Kingsport Mets, Co-host of a popular children's radio program entitled, "The WHCB 91.5 FM Kids Show" and now serves in his current capacity as Fire Education Officer for the Kingsport Fire Department.

Barry Brickey is a devoted husband and father. He is married to Rebecca and together they have two children, Nathaniel age 3 and Hannah age 1.

Barry Brickey teaches children of all ages fire safety precautions. He is dedicated to the success of safety in the City of Kingsport and surrounding areas. Last year alone, he oversaw the distribution of 10,000 smoke detectors and educated over 6,000 students about fire safety.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the House join me this evening in honoring Barry Brickey for his service, commitment, and determination. It is true that our children are our future. Because of the hard work of people like Barry Brickey, our future continues to be bright.

SIMEON BOOKER: INTEGRITY, COMPASSION AND SERVICE IN JOURNALISM

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my dear friend, Simeon Booker, on the occasion of his retirement as Washington Bureau Chief of *Jet* magazine. One of our nation's greatest journalists, his legacy is that of trailblazing reporter, radio commentator, author, and most of all, selfless and courageous advocate and defender of his people.

Simeon, whom I have known since coming to Washington in 1971 at the time of the founding of the Congressional Black Caucus, was almost single-handedly responsible for informing the nation of our presence in the United States Congress and our fledgling role in the governance of the country. With his weekly column, he made it known to Black America that they too had a voice in national politics which spoke for them in the formulation of policies that affected their lives. The Caucus has grown from the original 13 to 43 members, one of them running for President. Simeon Booker has more to do with that than he would ever admit.

Trailblazer that he was, Simeon never made himself the story. Forever humble, his great, and only, mission was to advocate for and record the history of African Americans. Bravely, he covered the Emmett Till lynching, despite threats to his life by a local white sheriff; reporting the first freedom ride from Atlanta to Birmingham, he had to use his Washington connections to get Justice Department protection from an angry mob. He marched with Martin Luther King through the hisses and catcalls from hostile white crowds. He covered the Little Rock 9 as they entered the Arkansas school house protected by federal troops. He traveled to Africa with Vice President Nixon and others as that continent threw off the yoke of European imperialism.

The first Black reporter at the Washington Post, he gave up the job to focus on covering the civil rights movement for the Black press. He was the first to win the Newspaper Guild Award, the second awarded the prestigious Nieman Fellowship to Harvard, and the first ever named to the pool of reporters covering the inauguration of President John F. Kennedy in 1962.

I congratulate and commend to my colleagues Simeon Booker, a preacher's son born in Baltimore, and his dear wife, Carol McCabe, who has stood by him. In the pantheon of American journalism, he stands in the first tier.

HONORING THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 7899

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the Knights of Columbus Council 7899, Mary Queen of Peace Parrish, in